



**TESTIMONY**  
of the  
**CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES**  
to the  
**ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**  
February 3, 2011

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

**Raised Bill 6250 "*An Act Concerning the Siting Council*".**

This bill would (1) prohibit the approval of any application for the siting of a telecommunication tower within 750 feet of land near a school, day care center, place of worship or private residence – unless the Siting Council finds that there are no alternative sites within the municipality, (2) allow the Siting Council to consider regional location preferences from neighboring municipalities, and (3) allow municipalities to recommend alternative sites and require the Siting Council to consider such recommendations.

While this bill provides limited input by local governments about the siting of telecommunication towers within their community, CCM is concerned that Section 1(3)(G) would also override local authority to choose to lease certain municipal properties for such facilities. Currently, there are a number of these towers on municipal land, generating income for the community. The decision as to where such facilities should/could be sited should first be with the municipal legislative body.

CCM understands that the siting of such facilities provides a statewide benefit and there are overarching needs for certain infrastructure, however local governments continue to struggle with their lack of decision making authority for these types of projects within their borders.

CCM urges the committee to **amend** this bill to **provide greater decision making authority to local governments and not hamper their ability to choose to site certain facilities.**

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If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy, Legislative Associate of CCM  
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